

MITT ROMNEY Governor

KERRY HEALEY Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE

20 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, LAKEVILLE, MA 02347 508-946-2700

STEPHEN R. PRITCHARD Secretary

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, Jr. Commissioner

Water Management Act Permit Application **Department of Environmental Protection** Southeast Regional Office For the Taunton River Watershed

The Department of Environmental Protection will accept written comments on the Water Management Act application filed for permitting in the Taunton River Watershed. The permit requested will authorize water withdrawals through February 28, 2010, under the Water Management Act (WMA) (M.G.L. c. 21G). Comments must be submitted by close of business on Friday, December 23, 2005 to the Department of Environmental Protection, Southeast Regional Office, 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville, Massachusetts, 02347, Attention: Jim McLaughlin, or via e-mail to james.m.mclaughlin@state.ma.us. A copy of the application is available for review at the Department's Southeast Regional Office, Lakeville; please contact the Service Center at (508) 946-2718 to schedule an appointment. The application is also on file with the Middleborough Board of Selectmen.

R.M. Lawton Cranberries, Inc., of Middleborough has applied for a WMA permit to withdraw water for cranberry bog irrigation. The applicant has requested a permit for 0.16 million gallons per day (MGD) on an average daily basis to irrigate approximately eighteen (18) acres of existing, unregistered bog. The permit application is for existing surface water withdrawals off Plymouth Street in Middleborough at the Carver Town Line at Latitude 41 ° 55' 03" and Longitude 70° 49' 18". The water source is an on-site reservoir. No new construction is proposed at this site.

The site is not within an area listed as a Priority Habitat of Rare Species, or an Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife by the July 1, 2003 Edition of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas (Plympton Quad).